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Attorney General John Ashcroft  
US Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:


The settlement agreement reached between the Justice Department and Microsoft was welcome news, and I hope that it is implemented after the close of the public comment period.

The agreement will provide additional opportunities for software companies to compete with Microsoft products. Microsoft has agreed to allow competition from non-Microsoft programs within its Windows operating systems, and it has agreed to allow its distributors and licensees to deal in products other than those produced by Microsoft.

Whether or not these additional opportunities for competition will result in an increase in products and consumer choice remains to be seen. However, the purpose of this case and the settlement are to open avenues of competition, not to guarantee the success of the competitors.

Thank you for the opportunity to voice my opinion.

Sincerely,



Joyce Thedy  
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